

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 and 43-53 are pending.

I. Double Patenting

Claims 1, 5-11, 19-21, 39, 52 and 53 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 16-22, and 30-32 of U.S. Patent No. 7,211,659, essentially for the reasons of record.

Applicants have filed a terminal disclaimer over the cited patent.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

II. Claim Objections

Claims 2-4, 12-18, 22-38, 40, 43-51 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have addressed the rejection to the base claims from which the cited claims depend.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **Docket No. 223002118020**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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